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41,733

(Reg. No.)

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of

Applicant : McCown et al.
Serial No. : 09/057,313
Filed : April 8, 1998
Title : CONTAINER TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM AND METHOD
Docket : 033449-002
Examiner : S. McAllister
Art Unit : 3652

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

The present submission is in response to the Office action mailed on October 1, 1999, having a period of response extending through and including November 1, 1999.

The Office action indicates that claims 1-24 are subject to a restriction or election requirement. On Page 2 of the Office action it is alleged that the application contains claims directed to two distinct inventions:

Group I - Claims 1-15 drawn to a container transportation system.

Group II - Claims 16-24 drawn to a method of loading and unloading containers on a marine vessel.

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The applicant elects to prosecute the claims directed to the method of loading and unloading containers on a marine vessel (Group II), without traverse. The claims readable thereon are claims 16-24.

In the event that the examiner wishes to discuss any aspect of this response, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "St. Elleman", written over a horizontal line.

Steven J. Elleman
Reg. No. 41,733

THOMPSON HINE & FLORY LLP
2000 Courthouse Plaza NE
P.O. Box 8801
Dayton, Ohio 45401-8801
(937) 443-6838

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